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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/801,848	03/17/2004	Roland Ramin	05725.1265-00	3099

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EXAMINER

JEAN-LOUIS, SAMIRA JM

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

1609

MAIL DATE DELIVERY MODE

07/11/2007

PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/801,848

Applicant(s)

RAMIN, ROLAND

Examiner

Samira Jean-Louis

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 1 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☒ Claim(s) 1-30 are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on ____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f):
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|--|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Election/Restrictions

1. Restriction to one of the following inventions is required under U.S.C. 121:

I. Claims 1-28, are drawn to a nail varnish composition comprising, in a cosmetically acceptable medium, fibers covered with at least one fluorescent whitening agent, classified in class 424, subclass 61.

II. Claims 29-30, are drawn to a cosmetic method comprising of applying said nail varnish composition to a nail, classified in class 424, subclass 61.

These inventions can be shown to be distinct inventions I and II are related as product and process of use. The inventions can be shown to be distinct if either or both of the following can be shown: (1) the process for using the product as claimed can be practiced with another materially different product or (2) the product as claimed can be used in a materially different process of using that product. See MPEP § 806.05(h). In the instant case the method can be practiced with a materially different product, such as a composition that does not include instructions for use.

Because these inventions are independent or distinct for the reasons given above and there would be a serious burden on the examiner if restriction is not required

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because the inventions require a different field of search (see MPEP § 808.02), restriction for examination purposes as indicated is proper. While the searches for Group I and II may be overlapping, in searching Group 1, the Examiner will solely base the search on the patentability of the aforementioned composition. Conversely, in searching for Group II, the Examiner will specifically focus the search on the patentability of the method of applying said composition. Accordingly, a search for both groups would pose an undue burden on the Office.

Furthermore, **applicant is required to elect a species from the 5 following species categories election requirements as well as specific subspecies classes.**

Moreover, this listed species and subspecies election is required for both groups I and II listed above.

This application contains claims directed to the following patentably distinct species and subspecies of fibers as well as distinct species of fluorescent whitening agents, film forming polymers, medium and coloring materials of :

1) silk, cotton, wool, flax, cellulose, rayon, polyamide, viscose, acetate, poly (p-phenylene terephthalamide), poly (p-phenylene terephthalamide), acrylic, polyolefin, glass, silica, carbon, polytetrafluoroethylene, insoluble collagen, polyesters, poly (vinyl chloride), poly (vinylidene chloride), poly (vinyl alcohol), polyacrylonitrile, chitosan, polyurethane and poly (ethylene phthalate), fibers formed from blends of polymers, and substantially rectilinear rigid fibers,

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1a) acrylic fibers are chosen from poly (methyl methacrylate) and poly (2-hydroxyethyl methacrylate) fibers,

1b) polyolefin fibers are chosen from polyethylene and polypropylene fibers,

1c) fibers of synthetic origins,

2) at least one fluorescent whitening agent is chosen from stilbene derivatives, coumarin derivatives, oxazole, benzoxazole, imidazole, triazole and pyrazoline derivatives, pyrene derivatives and porphyrin derivatives and at least one fluorescent whitening agent is chosen from disodium 4,4'-distyrylbiphenyl disulphonate, sodium 4,4'-bis[(4,6-dianilino-1,3,5-triazin-2-yl)amino]stilbene-2,12'-disulphonate, and 2,5-thiophenedyl bis(5-tert-butyl-1,3-benzoxazole),

3) at least one film-forming polymer,

4) acceptable medium

4a) the cosmetically acceptable medium is an organic medium comprising at least one organic solvent,

4b) the cosmetically acceptable medium is an aqueous medium,

5) further comprising at least one coloring material

The species and related subspecies are independent or distinct because claims to the different species recite the mutually exclusive characteristics of such species. In addition, these species are not obvious variants of each other based on the current record.

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There is an examination and search burden for these patentably distinct species due to their mutually exclusive characteristics. The species require a different field of search (e.g., searching different classes/subclasses or electronic resources, or employing different search queries); and/or the prior art applicable to one species would not likely be applicable to another species; and/or the species are likely to raise different non-prior art issues under 35 U.S.C. 101 and/or 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph. Thus, applicant is required under 35 U.S.C. 121 to elect a single disclosed species for prosecution on the merits to which the claims shall be restricted if no generic claim is finally held to be allowable. Currently, claims 1-2, 4-5, 7, 8-30 are generic.

Applicant is advised that the reply to this requirement to be complete must include (i) an election of a species to be examined even though the requirement may be traversed (37 CFR 1.143) and (ii) identification of the claims encompassing the elected species, including any claims subsequently added. An argument that a claim is allowable or that all claims are generic is considered nonresponsive unless accompanied by an election.

The election of the species may be made with or without traverse. To preserve a right to petition, the election must be made with traverse. If the reply does not distinctly and specifically point out supposed errors in the election of species requirement, the election shall be treated as an election without traverse. Traversal must be presented at the time of election in order to be considered timely. Failure to timely traverse the requirement will result in the loss of right to petition under 37 CFR 1.144. If claims are

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added after the election, applicant must indicate which of these claims are readable on the elected species.

Should applicant traverse on the ground that the species are not patentably distinct, applicant should submit evidence or identify such evidence now of record showing the species to be obvious variants or clearly admit on the record that this is the case. In either instance, if the examiner finds one of the species unpatentable over the prior art, the evidence or admission may be used in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) of the other species.

Upon the allowance of a generic claim, applicant will be entitled to consideration of claims to additional species which depend from or otherwise require all the limitations of an allowable generic claim as provided by 37 CFR 1.141.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Samira Jean-Louis whose telephone number is 571-270-3503. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30-5 PM EST M-Th.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Ardin H. Marschel can be reached on 571-272-0718. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

 6/30/07
ARDIN H. MARSCHEL
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER